

NEWSLINE RADIO - CBBS EDITION #78 - POSTED 06/29/93

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The following is late news about Amateur Radio for Radio Amateurs as prepared from NEWSLINE RADIO scripts by the staff of the AMATEUR RADIO NEWSLINE, INC. -- formerly the WESTLINK RADIO NETWORK. The electronic version of newsline is posted on this CBBS twice monthly. For current information updates, please call (213) 462-0008, (805) 296-2407, (407) 259-4479, (708) 289-0423, (513) 275-9991, (718) 353-2801, (407) 965-1234 or (206) 368-3969.

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Thank You
NEWSLTNE

Some of the bams of NEWSLINE RADIO

WA6ITF WB6MQV WB6FDF K6DUE W6RCL N6AHU N6AWE N6TCQ K6PGX N6PNY
KU8R N8DTN W9JUV KC9RP K9XT KB5KCH KC5UD KC9HF G8AUUJ D7QON and

many others in the United States and around the globe!!!

[828]

ERITERA DXPEDITION

A very special kind of Norwegian sponsored DXpedition to Asmara, Eritrea has had a major impact on that country and on all of Amateur Radio. The operation ran from May 31st to June 9th was a success in more ways than just the number of contacts that were made.

According to Erling Wiig, LA6VM the operation began several days before the first QSO was made with the group sponsoring ham radio introductory seminars at the Telecom Authority of Eritrea and at Asmara Technical School. LA6VM says that the three day seminar held at the Telecom office had about fifteen participants. This was followed by the four day seminar that was held at the Technical School with about thirty-five attendees. DXpedition party members also assisted the school in re-starting its radio club, began code training, gave out free books and training materials and installed a new ham station at the educational facility. The Icom built equipment replaces a five-decade old non-working station. Wiig notes that it is already being used in lectures to give hands-on demonstrations of electronics and communication theory.

Operationally, the DXpedition went on the air at 18:30 UTC on June 1st. The last contact was made on June 9th at 06:20 UTC. It used the call E35X and made about 20,000 QSOs with 125 countries. The operation took place mainly on 10, 15 and 20 meter SSB and CW with some contacts on 40, 80, and 160 meters and on RTTY.

The Eritrea DXpedition was far more than a way to make a lot of quick contacts. Thanks to the careful planning by its organizers, this operation was an international gesture of good will. This in turn also made it a major political coup for all of Amateur Radio.

VEC MEETING

The annual conference of the nation's VEC's was held June 17th and 18th at the FCC's license processing facility in Gettysburg, Pennsylvania. Several important topics discussed. Items brought to the table this year included instant callsigns.

Jim Georgias W9JUG, is administrator manager of the Great Lakes Amateur Radio Club VEC.

"The FCC has proposed that a temporary callsign be issued to new applicants. This temporary callsign would be issued at the test session when the applicant has passed the required elements. The FCC stated that it would generate a proposal for rulemaking on this subject."

The FCC also clarified the term conflict of interest as defined in part 97.515 relating to volunteer examiners.

Jim Georgias stated "Any person who owns a significant interest in or is an employee of any company or other entity that is engaged the manufacture or distribution of equipment used in connection with amateur radio transmissions or in the preparation or distribution of any publication used in preparation for obtaining an amateur radio licenses is ineligible to be an administering VE. That's the VE that gives the test. As result of this interpretation by the FCC a VE that is an instructor may not function as an administering VE for his class or any body else."

Also at this years conference the FCC announced the release of a new 610 form designed to curb abuse in the morse code element credit program for the severely disabled.

A program reviewing this national VEC conference will be available until July 2nd via the RAIN Dial-up at (708) 299-INFO. More on the future of the VEC testing program in future Newsline reports.

SAREX

Another SAREX equipped space shuttle is in orbit. Hundreds of students and thousands of packet operators are enjoying the flight of Endeavour.

STS-57...the flight of Endeavour...is the tenth flight of a Space Shuttle carrying amateur radio...and it's the third mission of five scheduled in 1993. Licensed operators on board are the pilot, Brian Duffy, N5WQC, and Mission Specialist Janice Voss. This is a voice and packet flight, with emphasis on the latter due to a very restrictive hamming timetable as the astronauts recover a four and a half ton satellite called Eureca. They also have nearly 100 experiments to conduct in a brand new commercial space laboratory, Spacehab, in the shuttle's cargo bay. NASA has leased all but one of the 43 lockers onboard at a cost to customers of nearly a million dollars a locker. SAREX is allowed to ride free because of the public service it does.

On this mission, Duffy and Voss plan 8 contacts with schools...five in the United States, one each in South Africa,

Mexico and Australia.

A footnote...to date, for missions STS-35 through STS-55, the flights before this one...students have participated in scheduled contacts at 124 schools, 5 museums, two space camp groups and one science center. It's estimated that 15,740 students have either talked or listened to the conversations with the astronauts...and that does not include hundreds of schools who have had listen only facilities or have listened to WA3NAN at the Goddard Space Center as it repeated the contacts on 20 and 40 meters.

CLINTON TO BUILD SPACE STATION

President Clinton has decided to proceed with a slimmed-down space station project. The New York Times reported on June 17th that the president had signed off on a plan to spend about \$10.5 billion over 5 years for the space platform. The Times said Clinton has chosen a combination of two alternatives that are based largely on the original design of space station Freedom. A House panel earlier this year approved spending \$15.16 billion on the projects through the rest of the decade. But the president put the project on hold and asked for NASA to offer him a less expensive version.

NASA Engineers recently provided President Clinton with three design options for a smaller, less costly version of the space station. Two of the options were based on the designs of the original Space Station Freedom. A third design, known as Option C, is cylindrical in shape and is the least expensive.

Ham radio has been a part of manned space operations for well over a decade. Its known that leaders in the amateur community are already at work at getting a permanent Amateur Radio station included in the space station design.

SPECTRUM

Spectrum is a new international communications and technology radio program. The show airs Sundays at 03:35 UTC over WWCR radio on 7.435 Mhz. It can also be heard by satellite over the Let's Talk Radio Network on GTE Spacenet 3, Transponder 21, on the 5.8 Mhz Audio Subcarrier.

Spectrum is hosted by Dave Marthouse, N2AAM a long time radio enthusiast and professional broadcaster. His co-host is Mark Emanuele a professional communications consultant. The program is underwritten by Overleaf International. Overleaf is a New Jersey based Data Processing and Telecommunications Consulting Firm.

HAM SHOWS ANNOUNCES SCHEDULE

If you happen to live near one of five key cities and enjoy a good ham radio convention, then 1994 will be an exciting year for you. That's because Mike Forsyth's company Ham Shows has announced the dates and venues for next year's mega events. January 8th and 9th will see Ham Show's kick-off the convention season at the Town And County Hotel in San Diego, California. Two weeks later, January 29th and 30th Ham Shows will be in Northern California at the Santa Clara Convention Center just south of San Francisco. July 30th and 31st will see a mid-west Ham Show at the Pheasant Run Resort and Convention Center near Chicago, Illinois, followed on August 6th and 7th with an event at the Eastern States Exposition Center in Springfield, Mass. Forsythe will round out 1994 with a Ham Show on August 27th an 28th 1994 at the same location that the 1993 Ham Show is taking place That's the Valley Forge Convention Center in Valley Forge, Pennsylvania.

Forsyth says that each Ham Show is designed to attract up to fifty-thousand attendees from an area of two hundred miles surrounding a given convention site. Already, every major manufacturer has signed on to exhibit at the first Ham Show slated later this summer for the weekend of August 21st and 22nd at the Valley Forge location. Many seem to believe that mega-events like Ham Shows is what the future of ham radio conventions is all about.

CQ HALL OF FAME

CQ Magazine has inducted six new members into it's CQ Contest Hall of Fame. The six are Fred Laun K3Z0, Frank Anzalone W1WY, Jim Lawson W2PV, Ed Bissell W3AU, Rush Drake W7RM and former ARRL President Victor C. Clark, W4KFC.

GHANA ON THE AIR

In DX, word that Ghanna is back on the air. The nation actually came back to the world of Amateur Radio back on March the 28th. To mark the occasion, Kofi Jackson 9G1AJ, the director of the Ghana Frequency Registration and Control Board held the first QSO with PAOLOU. He is the chairman of IARU region 1. Later 9G1AA was operated by members of the Dutch Da Goe' Foundation and made the first open QSO's after 7 years of non-activity.

NARA NON PROFIT STATUS

The National Amateur Radio Association says it has a better idea. An idea for radio clubs wanting the advantages that come with holding non profit status.

As you already know, NARA is a nationwide non-profit 501c3 educational group founded by Don Stoner W6TNS. Its primary objective is to represent the political needs of Novice and Technician class license holders. NARA has now found a way that almost every radio club in the nation can qualify for non-profit status as well.

Stoner says that his organization has been successful in obtaining a group exemption letter from the Internal Revenue Service. He explains that this is a provision in the Tax Code that will permit NARA to grant non-profit status to certain kinds of NARA affiliated groups. Stoner calls it the NARA Group Affiliation Program, and whether or not your group qualifies can be easily determined by getting a copy of IRS publication number 557. The information needed can be found in chapter 1 on page 5. The only catch is that a group wanting this status must affiliate itself with the National Amateur Radio Association, but Stoner notes there are a number of advantages to doing this. He believes that one of the most important is that non-profit status provides an entree to the United States Post Office to obtain non-profit mailing privileges. Organizations approved as non-profit mailers by the post office can receive significant reductions in their mailing expenses. Few radio clubs can afford to overlook this aspect of the offer.

Stoner believes that most radio clubs, VEC's, VE's and similar organizations can become part of NARA's group affiliation program. Don says that he has prepared a pamphlet that explains every aspect of the program. To get a copy simply send a request for publication GAP001 from the National Amateur Radio Association, Post Office Box 201407, Arlington, Texas 76006.

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Allan Courtney KD4DBN
Lexington, Kentucky

Internet: acourt@ncc.uky.edu
AMPRNet: 44.106.2.120